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No. 8

## Senate

The Senate was not in session today. Its next meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 25, 2011, at 10 a.m.

## House of Representatives

THURSDAY, JANUARY 20, 2011

The House met at 9 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker.

### PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Daniel P. Coughlin, offered the following prayer: Lord God, in You we discover infinite possibilities. May sincere prayer lead to determined action. May those who are doubtful or cynical be renewed in patriotism. May those who feel powerless look within for deeper strength. May those who are most sensitive and loving find authentic ways to express themselves. May those filled with complaints learn satisfying dialogue in another. May those caught in dependencies and compulsions be freed. May those overwhelmed with complexity take one step forward. May those with limited resources build upon personal gifts. May those who think themselves incapable be supportive and encourage others. May those who believe deeply discern signs that dreams do come true and prayers are answered.

Lord, may a whole new generation uncover creative responses to that ever-present challenge: "Ask not what your country can do for you, but what you can do for your country."

Amen.

### THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from Texas (Mr. POE) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. POE of Texas led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

### ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

The SPEAKER. The Chair will entertain five 1-minute speeches on each side.

### SPENDING AND FOREIGN AID

(Mr. POE of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, finally Congress says it will rein in out-of-control spending. My neighbors in Texas are a little cynical and say, "Prove it." One suggestion I keep hearing is regarding foreign aid. My friend, Sammy Mahan, a towing service operator, told me to quit giving money to dictators. Well, there's a thought.

There are 192 countries, and the United States gives money to roughly 150 of them. With our economic times, 15 million unemployed and the debt monster looming over us, it's time we reevaluate the citizen money we give away.

Someone has said that "foreign aid is taking money from the poor people in

rich nations and giving it to rich people in poor nations". And many of these receivers of taxpayer money don't even like us. As my friend, the gentleman from Texas, Mr. LOUIE GOHMERT says, "We don't need to pay them to hate us. They'll do it on their own."

We even give money away to China. We should reevaluate the money we give each nation. I suspect Israel and maybe a few others would and should receive U.S. help, but the rest need to go it on their own. After all, we should take care of America first.

And that's just the way it is.

### DON'T REPEAL HEALTH CARE REFORM

(Mr. SIRES asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. SIRES. Madam Speaker, yesterday was an unfortunate day in this Chamber. The majority party voted to bring our Nation back to a system where insurance companies' needs are placed before those of middle class Americans.

The truth is that millions of Americans are already benefiting from health care reform. Insurers are no longer allowed to discriminate against children and others who are sick; small businesses are receiving billions of dollars in tax credits; and seniors are saving money on prescription drugs and are receiving free preventive care through Medicare, including 72,000 seniors in my district alone.

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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